

November 2, 1988

TO: File
FROM: Scott Johnson *Scott*
RE: Site Inspection, Yerian Mine, S/047/034, Uintah County, Utah

I inspected the Yerian Mine on November 1, 1988. The total disturbance of this site is nearly 5 acres.

When I arrived on the site, the foreman was not present, and his employees would not offer any information. I walked the perimeter of the disturbance and took several pictures.

A major problem with the operation is the water discharge into the Green River. The sediment pond was full of sediment and the silt contaminated water entered directly into the river.

The operator uses a diesel pump to push water up to the plant. A 12 inch aluminum line is used. The pump runs constantly during the day. When the plant is not operating, a valve at the plant diverts the water directly onto the ground, where the water travels through 1500 feet of mud before entering the river.

As I was leaving the site, the foreman, Jay Slaugh, showed up. After telling me his view's on the constitution, which took about an hour, we discussed the water problem on the site. He claimed that the spring run-off into the river was far more detrimental than his discharge. He did agree, however, to dredge the pond. He claimed he had dredged two weeks ago. I suggested he shut off the pump when the plant is not operating. This would greatly decrease the amount of water to be handled. He did not like the suggestion.

I told him I would probably stop by in a couple weeks to check on the pond. In the meantime, I will contact Charles Dietz, Bureau of Water Pollution Control.

jb
cc: Charles Dietz, BWPC
Lowell Braxton
Wayne Hedberg
Holland Shepherd
MN17/14